

# RYSS Early Childhood Academy at Leonel Castillo

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## Parent Family Engagement Policy 2025-2026

### **Statement of Purpose (What is it? , Funding, Review)**

Leonel Castillo staff, as well as parents of students participating in activities, services and programs that use Title I, Part A, Elementary and Secondary Education Statutes (ESSA 1116) funds (participating students agree that this agreement establishes the responsibilities of parents, school staff, and students to improve academic performance and the means by which the school and parents will form and develop a society that will help students achieve the high standards state standards. This policy was developed with the assistance and approval of the parents of students in the Title I program. All use of funding and activities can be reviewed by the Texas Education Agency upon request to ensure they meet the need of the PFE Program.

### **Policy Involvement (Family Meetings)**

RYSS Early Childhood Academy at Leonel Castillo is a school wide Title I school. Every year, all parents are invited to participate in one or more meetings. Topics of discussion at these meetings will include Title I, the Parent Involvement Policy, Tejano Center Programs, Emergent Bilingual Program, Early Childhood- PK- Kindergarten and other opportunities for parental participation. A Meet the Teacher and an Open House is held in August and September for students and parents to have an opportunity to visit their child's classroom and become better informed about grade level expectations. Our annual Title I meeting is held in conjunction to Open House. Representatives from the staff and other organizations are invited to help with the presentations, which are presented in both English and Spanish. In order to meet the diverse needs of our parents, trainings on a multitude of topics will be held year round at various times.

### **Program Involvement (How to be involved, Curriculum)**

At meetings, we give parents timely information about our Title I programs, including tutoring if needed, parental involvement opportunities, Early Childhood programing, Emergent Bilingual Programs as part of our bilingual services as well as Tejano Center Programs. We describe our curriculum (Teaching Strategies and TEA Bluebonnet, STEMScopes, Social Studies Weekly), explain our expectations for our students, and discuss how student performance is measured both on and off campus. In addition, assistance and guidance is given on standardized tests administered to Kindergarten students for GT testing, parent reports for the PK CIRCLE assessment, as well as reports for iReady and Dibels. We are interested in starting a Parent Teacher Organization meetings (PTO) and Coffee on Campus meetings at least four times a year to respond to provide parents the opportunity to learn how to support their child's educational needs. We encourage parents to make suggestions, to share experiences with other parents, and to participate in decision-making. If the school wide program plan is unsatisfactory to the parents, the information is introduced at SDMC meetings in the form of a Topic of Concern, and further action is addressed at the meetings. The parent involvement plan can be revised to address the needs of our school.

| Annual Title I Meeting    | Coffee on Campus (Topics will vary) | SDMC Meeting  | Parent Student Lunch Date (at lunch period) |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------------------|
| September 16- 3:30 & 4:30 | 10/30- 9:00AM                       | 9/27- 3:30PM  | 10/1, 11/5, 1/14, 2/11, 3/18, 4/8           |
|                           | 1/22- 9:00AM                        | 11/13- 3:30PM |                                             |
|                           | 2/26- 9:00AM                        | 2/19- 3:30PM  |                                             |

### **Shared Responsibilities for High Student Academic Achievement**

A school-parent compact was developed with parents of participating Title I students. It explains how parents, school staff and the students will share responsibility for each student's academic success. Parent-teacher conferences will be held at least once during the school year, but will be scheduled as needed by the teacher and/or requested by the parent. There will be many opportunities for parents to volunteer in the classroom and at our campus. All parents must be cleared by the VIPS/Raptor system in order to volunteer.

|                                |                                 |                                |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Parent Conference Dates</b> | 10/3-10/10 Times TBD by Teacher | 2/17-2/24 Times TBD by Teacher |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|

### **Building Capacity for Involvement (Family Trainings/Activities)**

It is part of Leonel Castillo's role to teach parents how to help their children learn. One way this is done is by explaining educational laws. Parents are given information about district, state and national education goals, Title I requirements, TEKS, STAAR, District level assessments and the school improvement plan, and bilingual education at PTO, Coffee on campus, and or SDMC meetings.

### **Parent Training and Involvement**

Presentations are designed to help parents know if a child is doing well, how parents can work with teachers to help their children, and how to be involved in decision-making about the education of their children. Materials and training are provided to help parents assist their children. Some training includes family literacy activities, parent workshops by the Castillo Staff, and even parent conference days. Parents are also given opportunities to engage in family nights hosted at the campus to engage families and the school with literacy, math or STEM opportunities.

Professional development training is also provided to teachers and other staff members. School staff is taught the importance of involving parents as partners, programs for parents, and building ties between home and school.

Our school strives to coordinate parental involvement activities among the different programs available on our campus. Shared parental involvement activities are sponsored for Title I through our Pre-Kindergarten, Emergent bilingual programs, tutorials when needed, and engagement activities. Outreach programs are organized and implemented by the school nurse and Tejano Center Programs to support the needs of our students' families.

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|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Parent Instructional Material Training</b> | 10/3-10/10 Times TBD by Teacher | 2/17-2/24 Times TBD by Teacher |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|

### **Translation**

The Parent and Family Engagement Policy can be made available upon request in other languages at your child's Title I campus.